DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1849. NO. 25.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

EXHIBITION OF FOWLS, AND CONVENTION OF FOWL BREEDERS AND FANCIERS.

ON the 15th and 16th of this month, the grand show of fowls, and convention of fowl breeders and fanciers, came off in the public garden in this city. Notwithstanding the lateness in the season, the weather was most delightful, being as bland and bright as the fine weather in May or September.

The show was extensive both in numbers and variety, far exceeding expectation; and the remarkably fine condition of the fowls was highly creditable to the exhibiters. Those who had taken but a limited observation of this subject were astonished at the great variety, richness, and excellence of the show; and the many thousands who witnessed it were happily disappointed and highly gratified; and when they saw so many splendid and beautiful fowls, so great a variety possessing peculiar characteristics and marks of distinction, and so large a number of intelligent men giving their attention to this subject, and aiming to improve the various breeds and disseminate useful information on a subject of so much practical utility to all classes, they looked upon this branch of rural economy as assuming great importance, and destined to rank high among the industrial pursuits that contribute largely to the profit and pleasure of the operator, and to the general welfare of the community, and to rural embellishment.

There were about two hundred lots or coops of fowls, and the whole number of fowls was probably about one thousand. Some editors estimated them at two or three thousand; but such are doubtless accustomed to counting votes before election. Almost every breed of hens in the country was represented, from the beautiful little Bantam, no bigger than a common pigeon, to the majestic India fowls, as large as turkeys.

The greatest deficiency was in the common native hens, which were scarcely seen excepting in crosses. Had the finest natives been selected, they would have added much to the interest and beauty, as well as to the extent, of the show. In fowls as in other stock, too much attention is given to foreign breeds, to the neglect of improving the domestic races. Our best natives, judiciously selected and bred by crosses, would rank, in utility and show, with the finest foreign varieties.

Besides the numerous distinct breeds at this exhibition, there were crosses and mixtures of almost every description; for in stock, as in every thing else, the love of experiment and desire for improvement stimulate Yankees to try every mode, with a view of producing something novel, excellent, or wonderful.

BARNDOOR FOWLS OR HENS.

Bantams. — There were various lots of the little Bantams, of different colors, but mostly white. John Giles, Providence, R. I., had African Bantams. E. B. Little, Haverhill; Henry Little, Marshfield; S. H. Peek, Lynn; A. H. Hale, Rockport; B. W. Balch, Dedham; Calvin B. Austin, Danvers; E. B. Richardson, Brookline; H. L. Devereau, Boston; George S. Pierce and Stephen Osborne, Danvers; and A. A. Andrews, Roxbury, exhibited Bantams. Those of Mr. Devereau were white, with top-knots.

Creepers. — Parker Barnes, Dorchester, and Henry Little, Marshfield, showed Creepers — an old but excellent race. Mr. B. had in his show eggs laid by pullets, which were large for small fowls. He claims for them superior profit, and excellence both in eggs and flesh, in proportion to the food consumed.

Italian, or Black Spanish, were exhibited by Daniel Buxton, Jr., Danvers; A. White, Randolph; Calvin B. Austin, Danvers; B. Shurtleff and N. Coolidge, North Chelsea; and S. B. Morse, East Boston. Those by Mr. B. were remarkable for their purity, beauty, and distinctness.

Dorkings were exhibited by Dr. E. Wight, Dedham; W. E. Richardson, Brookline; John Giles; W. J. Buckminster, Framingham; Clinton Clark, Brookline; L. H. Stoddard, Brookline; George S. Pierce and Stephen Osborne, Danvers; N. C. Day, Leominster; J. S. Houghton, North Chelsea; A. A. Andrews, Roxbury; Theodore Drew, Plymouth; John W. Hunt, North Bridgewater; N. H. Tyrrell, Easton; T. G. Morrell, Georgetown. The Dorkings, as they were marked, were of various sizes and

colors, and many of them were doubtless mixed with other breeds. Dr. Wight's imported Dorkings were much admired.

Bolton Grays were shown by Nathan G. Hodson, Stoughton; James Houghton, Dorchester; Joseph A. Stinger, Kingston; John Giles; and W. W. Hague, Roxbury.

Bucks County fowls were exhibited by A. White, East Randolph; and George S. Pierce and Stephen Osborne, Danvers.

Poland Top-Knots were shown by A. White, East Randolph; J. M. Rowell, Manchester, N. H.; G. S. Pierce and S. Osborne, Danvers; D. Holmes, Malden; A. H. Hale, Rockport; Theodore Drew, Plymouth; and Joseph A. Sampson, Duxbury.

Guelderlands were exhibited by H. L. Devereux, Boston; and S. B. Morse, East Boston.

Java fowls were shown by John Giles, Providence; and John Chamberlain, Jr., Danvers.

English Grays were exhibited by Linus Mantry, Easton; J. C. Floyd, Dorchester; and T. A. Stanley, Attleborough.

Creoles were shown by D. M. Robertson, Manchester; and John W. Hunt, North Bridgewater.

Dominique fowls were exhibited by G. S. Pierce and S. Osborne, and John Chamberlain, Jr., Danvers.

Frizzled, or Friesland, by G. S. Pierce, and S. Osborne.

Shanghae fowls, by S. and G. Hyde, Newton; A. Pike, Watertown; W. J. Buckminster, Framingham; J. S. Houghton, North Chelsea; C. B. Marsh, West Roxbury; John Giles; B. Lancaster, Roxbury; E. B. Little, Haverhill; G. W. George, Haverhill; B. W. Balch, Dedham; J. W. Spooner, Plymouth; Thomas Thorpe, West Cambridge. Many others exhibited the Shanghae fowls, and crosses of this breed, with various others. In several cases, this breed and crosses of it were marked Cochin China, and China; but there are no Cochin China fowls in this country, in the opinion of the most competent judges. It is said that there are none in England excepting a few owned by the queen.

There were many varieties of fowls formed by crosses, some of which were of fine appearance, and will doubtless rank high in point of utility. S. M. Stanley and P. M. George, of Attleborough, showed very fine fowls, produced by a cross some twenty years ago. The finest looking hen in the whole exhibition, in our opinion, was a large fowl shown by Howard B. Coffin, which was from a cross of the Dorking with what was called the China breed. That old hen will be very diligent if she lays eggs enough in one season to fill the numerous orders for her eggs.

Several lots of hens were marked Pheasants; but there were no pheasants shown, excepting a pair by Colonel Jaques. The hens called pheasants might be one fourth or sixth of the pheasant blood. They probably descended from a cross of the golden pheasant with the Poland fowl.

There were but very few fowls marked Game breed, and the most of them were a mixture.

Plymouth Rock. — This is a new variety, recently formed at Plymouth, and which has gained an early, and, we think, a short-lived fame, unless their intrinsic properties excel their appearance. But few of this race were shown, and *some* of them were very good in appearance.

Turkeys. — John Giles exhibited a pair of wild turkeys.

Geese. — Daniel Webster, Marshfield, showed a fine lot of wild geese; one pair of old ones and young ones. Colonel Samuel Jaques, Somerville, exhibited Bremen geese, remarkably large. By John Giles, one pair of Barnacle geese, and one Poland gander.

Ducks. — John Giles showed imported Aylesbury ducks, and Muscovy ducks; Rufus Bates, Hanover, imported Poland ducks; Isaac Ellis, Walpole, ducks; E. S. Rand, Dedham, one Wood duck, very beautiful.

Guinea fowls were exhibited by John Giles; and J. R. Bartlett, Newbury.

Pea fowls were shown by H. L. Devereux.

Swans. — Noble and beautiful white swans were shown by John Giles.

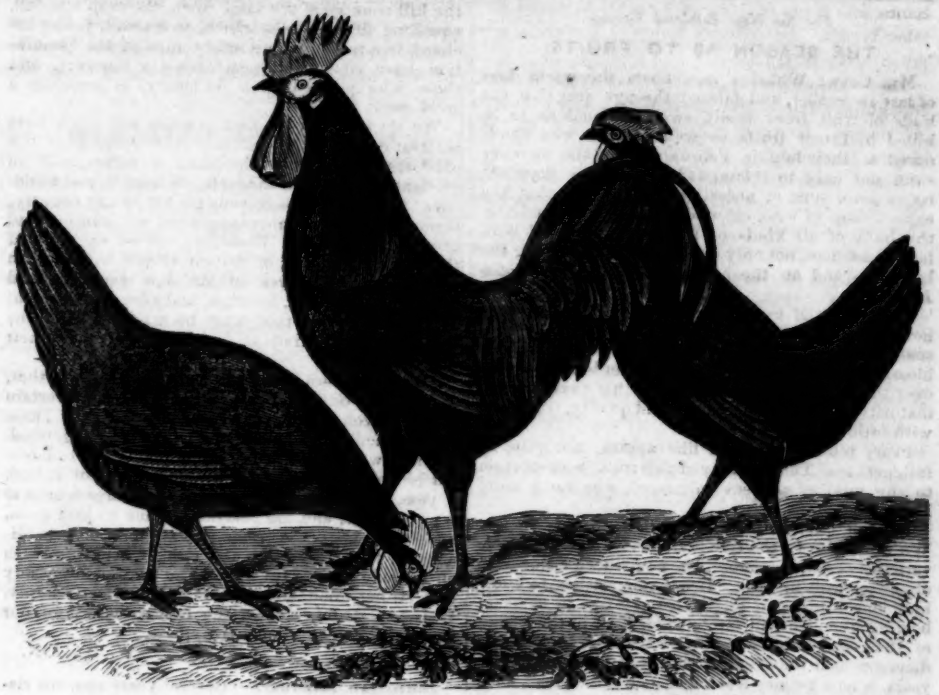
We have endeavored to show to our readers who had not the pleasure of visiting this exhibition, its variety and extent, and show by whom the different breeds were exhibited, as a matter of information to purchasers; but where there was so great a variety, and changes made by bringing new lots, and carrying away others, and in short days with crowds constantly around the coops, and other duties to attend to, it is difficult doing justice to the novel subject.

We hope that the committee will publish a report, in which they will discriminate as to the purity of breeds, and the peculiar properties of each breed, showing its excellences and defects, if it has any. The public are looking for information from the experienced and intelligent committee, to whom great credit is due for their arrangement and management of this affair, as well as to Dr. Bennet, of Plymouth, for suggesting it. The beginning has been excellent, and remarkably promising, and it has created an excitement that, like that for raising fruit, will have a happy effect on the community. We suppose that arrangements have been made for future shows, and that they will far exceed the recent exhibition. Many sales of barndoor fowls were made at the fair, at from five to ten or fifteen dollars per pair. Since the exhibition, blood stock in fowls has risen from fifty to one hundred per cent.

Much credit is due to S. B. Morse, East Boston, the very intelligent secretary of the convention, for the efficient and accurate manner in which he discharged the perplexing duties of his office, and his general care and oversight of the exhibition.

FLOWERS.

Flowers are divided into annuals, which flower and die the year they are sown; biennials, which flower the second year, and then die; and perennials, which do not, generally, flower the first year, but die down to the ground annually, and spring up again every succeeding spring for a number of years.



ITALIAN OR BLACK SPANISH FOWLS.

This breed is very common in Italy, Spain, and other countries along the Mediterranean. They are very distinctly marked, and uniform in form and color.

The size is large, the form compact and symmetrical; the color, a jet, shining black. They have very large single combs, and long wattles, which expose them to injury in very cold climates, unless well protected by a warm house.

The eggs of this breed are large and of excellent quality. The flesh is also excellent. They are good layers, and they commence laying young. They are considered as one of the most profitable races, and all who saw them at the late show will testify to their fine appearance, as they may justly be classed among the most ornamental breeds.

Our engraving is drawn from life, by Brown, representing specimens of the fine lot exhibited at the late fair by Mr. Daniel Buxton, Danvers, some of which he sold at ten dollars per pair.

FRUGALITY.

This mercantile wisdom of "a penny saved is two pence got," may be accommodated to all conditions by observing, that not only they who pursue any lucrative employment will save time when they forbear expense, and that time may be employed to the increase of profit, but that they, who are above such minute considerations, will find, by every victory over appetite or passion, new strength added to the mind, will gain the power of refusing those solicitations by which the young and vivacious are hourly assaulted, and in time, set themselves above the reach of extravagance and folly.

It appears evident that frugality is necessary even to complete the pleasure of expense; for it may be generally remarked of those who squander what they know their fortune not sufficient to allow, that in their most jovial expense, there always breaks out some proof of discontent and impatience; they either scatter with a kind of wild desperation and affected lavishness, as criminals brave the gallows when they cannot escape it, or pay their money with a peevish anxiety, and endeavor at once to spend idly and save meanly; having neither firmness to deny their passions, nor courage to gratify them, they murmur at their own enjoyments, and poison the bowl of pleasure by reflections on the cost. — *Johnson.*

PEA STRAW.

Not long since, I saw a communication from some brother farmer out west, stating that pea straw was entirely worthless. I think his saying thus was in consequence of his never having tested the value of it. Last year I raised a fine crop of the green pea, and was careful to preserve them from storms. I got them into the barn in a good condition, and wintered my sheep on the straw, without grain or roots, and never had my sheep look better than they do this spring. I think there is no straw better worth saving than pea straw, if properly taken care of and preserved from the weather. Let some other person try them and tell us the result. — *Genesee Farmer.*

Dr. Franklin, endeavoring to kill a turkey by an electric shock, received the whole battery himself, when he good-naturedly observed, that, instead of killing a turkey, he had nearly put an end to the existence of a goose.

For the New England Farmer.

THE SEASON AS TO FRUITS.

Mr. Cole: Whoever remembers the warm days of last December, and fainted through fear that the buds of fruit trees would swell so much as to be killed by future frosts, as well as those who shuddered at their fate in February when the mercury sunk not only to "fatal 14°," but more than 20° below zero, must of necessity be surprised that the expectations of wise, calculating men failed, and that the buds of all kinds of fruit trees survived both fatal influences, not only in the valleys, but along the hill sides and on the hill tops of *cold, mountainous Berkshire.*

The bloom of every kind of fruit tree cultivated here was abundant, though much later than in most seasons. Apple-trees gave a profusion of large, fair blossoms; but owing to the cold winds that passed over them, but little fruit set, and that that reached maturity was of an inferior size and quality, compared with ordinary crops.

Pears blossomed much like apples; not quite so full, perhaps. The quantity of this fruit, in proportion to the number of trees cultivated, was much more liberal.

English cherries are a rare article in this region. We wonder at it, the tree is so hardy, and the better varieties of fruit so fine. They produced a fine crop of perfect fruit in 1849. If any one wishes to know how long it takes an English cherry-tree to come in bearing here, we will say to them that, in the spring of 1842, we grafted one three fourths of an inch in diameter near the ground: this graft has borne three years, is now twenty feet high, with a fine head, and, the last summer, produced cherries enough to pay for all the labor we have bestowed upon it. Of course, it is now in its cherry-tree infancy, and its future crops may all be nearly considered a clear gain.

Plums have borne in profusion, so that every one who has trees has had an abundant supply and to spare. (Do not forget to salt your plum-trees liberally, if you would have them healthy and productive. We have known several trees that bloomed well, but produced no fruit, come into bearing the first year after the application of salt.)

Peaches — ah! the delicious peaches! If there is a single point in which all the world is agreed, it is this, that *peaches* ARE GOOD. The invalid says they are healthy, and we, from the good effects we have received from them, — those of our own raising, the present year, — are disposed to think his assertion is correct. But what elongated countenances were visible, and what fearful forebodings were felt, last winter, when unusual warmth was followed by severe cold, in anticipation of the failure of the peach crop! Our learned professors said it was all over with them, when the frosty mornings sent the mercury to 20°, 22°, 23° below zero; and others thought so too, when they saw the dingy, half-formed blossoms coming out to meet the cold wind the latter part of May. Yet these same trees, that gave such a miserable bloom to look upon so late in May, that some of them hung on in June, gave ample crops in September and October. The fruit was good too, as rich and as perfect as can be found at any time in any land.

It is probable the tardiness in appearance of the blossoms in many instances saved the crop. A single illustration may substantiate the probability, and establish it as a fact.

In the gardens of Mr. Samuel Goodrich, located on the interval of the Housatonic, in a warm soil, in Stockbridge, the peach failed entirely, from having started too early, and being subject to a spring frost; while in the garden of General Williams, located in the hill country of the same town, the crop was full, equalling fifty bushels, which, in a small, young orchard, in a region where nine tenths of the population have considered peach-trees a nuisance, and those who planted them visionary, is certainly a good crop.

We do not suppose that peaches will grow here without care; neither will any other crop. Even our old forests, planted by the hand of nature, will, in cultivated countries, through negligence, run to decay. Grass, the spontaneous growth of the country, through neglect or mismanagement will run out and give place to weeds. How then can we expect that the native products of distant climes will flourish and perfect themselves without due watchings and timely labors? Soil, location, and after management are considerations that must be attended to in the cultivation of all kinds of fruit trees, to insure their full success.

The *Allen peach.* You will recollect, perhaps, that, some three or four years since, — I am not certain which, — you sent me three pits of this peach. These were immediately planted, and two of them vegetated. Both grew vigorously, but one of them unfortunately got broken down the next winter, which put it back a year. The other has produced as large a crop as was desirable, and the peaches are fine to look upon, and fine to taste. Average size three inches in diameter; flesh very juicy and rich; a beautiful blush on the side next to the sun. The tree makes a very fine, strong wood, and appears to be perfectly hardy. It is, no doubt, one of the best varieties for our climate. Yours truly,

W. BACON.

Editorial Remarks. — Several years ago, we visited the peach orchards in Walpole, and gave a particular notice of the Allen peach, cultivated extensively there — far more than any other variety. The peculiar properties of this peach in producing the same from seed, as it had been cultivated in that way for forty years, with its hardiness, and early, constant, and great bearing, with its good qualities, caused a demand for the trees, and they have been widely disseminated. We distributed many trees or seeds to our friends.

A few cultivators have complained that this peach is rather small for market; yet we believe that no variety has afforded more profit than this. Four or five years ago, Mr. Jeremiah Allen, of Walpole, had a large crop from a young orchard, and the same trees have borne well this season. Mr. Daniel Allen, who carried the fruit to market informed us that the crop from one and a third acres produced over four hundred dollars this season. Has any cultivator in New England beat this?

When in Maine, last summer, where we had sent some stones of the Allen peach to our friends, we saw some of the fruit, where the thermometer, the previous winter, must have been as low as 25° or 30° below zero. We are happy to find that this peach sustains the high character which we gave it, on introducing it to the public. Mr. Allen, the old gentleman, who has the honor of originating this valuable variety, says, as we are informed, that his trees have failed only three or four years in forty.

This peach is not large, but it is medial in size; very handsome, and of excellent quality; and its vigor, hardiness, productiveness, and long life, and the very important advantage of yielding the same

fruit from seed, are valuable properties, especially in this cold climate.

For the New England Farmer.

ANALYSIS OF SOILS.

Mr. Editor: Some time ago, I read, in your first September number, an article entitled "Analysis of Soils, &c." I noticed in the article an inquiry instituted by the writer relative to the manner of analyzing soils, for the purpose of ascertaining what elements need be added to the soil of any particular field to prepare it in the best manner for the production of any desired crop.

After reading the above article, I examined the subsequent numbers of your paper, hoping to discover, at least, some reference to this inquiry; but I am disappointed in finding that no notice has been taken of it by any one of your correspondents.

Although I am not a practical chemist, neither an experienced farmer, I will nevertheless say a few words on this subject, with the hope that, by breaking the ice, I may induce others, better qualified than myself, to impart to us some valuable information on the subject of this inquiry.

As to the manner in which analyses of soils are performed, I am practically unacquainted. I have, however, paid some attention to the study of agricultural chemistry, sufficient to convince me that a complete analysis can be performed only by a person who, by much study and practice, has prepared himself for this particular business. Very incomplete analyses can be performed by any farmer who feels disposed to take the requisite time and pains: for instance, he can ascertain, with approximate accuracy, the proportionate amount of sand, clay, and lime in the soil of any one of his fields. To do this, he would first put the soil in hot water, to soften the clay; then he would sift the soil, by which process the sand would be separated from the clay and lime, these two passing through the sieve, leaving the sand behind. The sand should then be dried, and its weight ascertained. If, now, he treat that portion of the soil which passed through the sieve with muriatic (hydrochloric) acid, the acid will unite with the lime, dissolving it; the solution can then readily be separated from the remaining clay. After the separation, the solution should be evaporated to dryness, and then weighed. Finally, the remaining clay should now be dried, and its weight ascertained. Now, by comparing these obtained weights, he would ascertain, with tolerable accuracy, the proportionate amount of each of these three ingredients of the soil.

The farmer can also ascertain the nature of his soil, to some extent, by mere inspection: thus he can generally ascertain, readily, whether the soil be naturally sandy or clayey, or whether there be much iron present, a trace of which is always found in fertile soils. If his land be rocky, or in the immediate vicinity of rocks, he can ascertain its nature more accurately by learning the chemical constituents of these rocks; since they, by their disintegrations, are constantly changing into soil. Fortunately for the farmer, the chemical constituents of nearly all the various crops, which he raises, have been carefully ascertained and recorded. These analyses he can readily consult by obtaining books which contain them; but he cannot procure accurate and complete analyses of his soil without employing the services of the chemist, and without, of course, incurring considerable expense. This necessary outlay prevents most farmers from obtaining the assistance of the chemist, although they may feel conscious that the benefits they might derive from his investigations would by no means be inconsiderable.

It should, however, be remembered, that the analysis, which the farmer may obtain from the chemist, will be of comparatively little use to him, after the expiration of a few years, unless he take notice of the quantity and nature of the manure which he, from time to time, adds, as well as of the nature and amount of each year's produce; for the addition of fertilizers to the soil, and the removal of a portion of its ingredients, will have a tendency to change its nature to a greater or less extent.

At the present time, farmers are extensively engaged in the manufacture of artificial manures, or, as they are often termed, *compost heaps*. In forming these heaps, is it not important that some regard should be had to the wants of the soil to which this manure is to be applied, as well as to the nature of the crop which is to be raised? Also, in the application of such fertilizers as lime, plaster, &c., which are composed of only a few elements, would it not be well for us to consult the wants both of the soil and the crop? Is not the farmer often greatly disappointed and astonished that the fertilizer which he has added so copiously to the soil, does not apparently increase his harvest?

I have been forcibly reminded of the importance to the farmer of information on these points, by several experiments which have fallen under my observation during the present season. I will mention one of these.

A farmer, in this town, purchased a large quantity of unclarified Glauber's salts, (sulphate of soda,) which he sowed, copiously, on two fields apparently very similar in their nature. On the one field he raised oats; on the other, Indian corn. His crop of corn was quite large, being upwards of sixty bushels to the acre. His crop of oats, on the contrary, was unusually small. He was astonished at this result, and very naturally did not know how to account for it. Now, if he should come into possession of analyses of these two fields, and also of the oat and maize, could he not then, by a little study, obtain some light as to the cause of this result? Or, if he had obtained these analyses, before sowing the salts, is it not probable that he would have added some more needed fertilizer, at least, to the oat field? Or, if he should compare the analysis of the maize with that of the oat, would he not find a much greater amount of soda in the former than in the latter? and could he not very reasonably infer that the salts which he added would benefit the corn much more than the oat crop? But, Mr. Editor, I will not extend my remarks further. My only object in making them is to draw the attention of others to this important subject. How far I have succeeded in accomplishing my object remains to be proved.

L. G. LOWE.

Bridgewater, *Nov.* 8.

For the New England Farmer.

BONE DISORDER IN COWS.

Mr. Editor: I was much interested in reading a communication in your paper upon this subject, by A. W. Dodge, Esq. (p. 351.) I do not propose to show that the bones of any cow have actually wasted away; but I have seen many cows that have wasted away, all but their skin and bones, and they lost the use of them; this, too, while they were well fed upon good English hay and Indian meal.

I can remember seeing cows thus affected more than twenty years ago. There is something peculiar in the looks and motion of a cow thus affected: though I cannot fully describe it, yet I can readily distinguish them from what is commonly called poor cows. When a cow is kept poor, the hair is long, and stands erect: this is not the case when they

have the bone disease. They become gaunt, and, when they walk, they put each foot down with as much care as you would set down an old rickety barrel that you were fearful would fall to pieces.

We have never had any cows thus affected on our farm. I trust my neighbors will excuse me if I use their names upon this subject. On the farm of Captain Levi Preston, the cows have long been affected in this way. It was formerly thought, in this neighborhood, that it was something that the cows ate in the pasture that caused it. As his pasture joined ours, we were fearful, for a time, that ours would be affected in the same way. We think now that we can guard against it. He has always been one of the most industrious and prudent farmers of Danvers, taking the best of care of his stock; yet his cows have been the most affected. Now, why is this? I think I can show. For a long time, the most of the stock kept upon his farm were milch cows; the manure applied was mostly made by them; he has never bought manure for his land, nor grain for his stock, so that there has been a constant drain upon the soil of phosphate of lime to supply milk.

I have never known a cow to be affected in this way on a farm where they have been in the habit of buying shorts for their cows, or buying manure for their land.

Your correspondent says that this whole theory appears to him unreasonable, because lands which yield an abundance of good feed, would be just as likely to afford sufficient nutriment to the bones as to the flesh of cattle.

I answer, that they do, but that there are some lands which do not afford nutriment enough for the milk and bones both. If this is not the case, why is it that oxen will thrive well in the same pasture, and cows that are dry, while those that give milk become stiff and diseased? With all due deference to the opinion of Dr. Saunders, I would ask him, why is it that it only affects cows that give milk? And why does the disease first appear at the time when they are giving the greatest quantity? And why are good cows more likely to be affected by it than those which give but little milk?

I would ask him if, in his practice, he has ever known a cow to have this "acidity on the stomach," except in those places where the greater part of the stock kept was milch cows.

A short time since, I was looking at one of our neighbors' cows. He said, "My milch cows want something that they cannot get on this farm now. I give them bone meal twice a week; this helps them; but it is not exactly what they want." He said that he fed his cows better than he did his oxen; yet his oxen always looked remarkably well, and his cows poor. I refer to Mr. Jonathan Berry, who for many years lived upon the Burley farm, so called, in Beverly.

Why is it that his cows are affected here, and not there, if it is not the want of some ingredient in their food? Why is it that oxen and dry cows do well, while milch cows, fed from the same haymow, and meal barrel, become poor and stiff, if it is not because they do not get phosphate of lime enough to make milk and support the bones?

WILLIAM R. PUTNAM.

North Danvers, *Nov.* 9.

BLACK WARTS ON PLUM-TREES.

These warts and the curculio are great evils, and the principal ones with which the fruit-grower has to contend in raising plums. They have long been subjects of close investigation to the scientific and practical man, without satisfactory results. The following interesting remarks on the black wart, are from Miss Grace Darling, who had peculiar advantages for observations, in the numerous horticultural experiments of her distinguished father, the late Judge Darling, of New Haven, Ct.

Mr. Cole: I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in writing to you, as I noticed, in your excellent work on fruits, that "no cause had as yet been assigned for the appearance of black knots on plum-trees." They seem to have been entirely exterminated from our trees, by cutting off the branches infected, and burning them. I obtained some which contained two kinds of insects, the one a thick, short, whitish little grub, destitute of feet, the other longer and more slender, of a color inclining to a reddish-brown. I kept them in a tumbler, partly filled with moist earth, and covered with glass. The white larvæ went into the ground, and in a few weeks came out curculios; the others went into the chrysalis state in and on the excrescences, and hatched out about the same time the curculios did. These proved to be a small moth, about a quarter of an inch in length, of a light brown color, with three large spots of a dark brown on the hind margin, and a line of the same color running across the middle of the wings, pointing backwards, so as to form the letter V. They all died very soon, probably from confinement.

I have examined numbers of the warts, and always found the caterpillars of the moths more plentiful than the curculio; but why they should both inhabit the same place, and which the author of the mischief is, I am unable to say. I have, however, come to the conclusion that it is the curculio, which makes use of the young and tender twigs in default of plums, from this fact: the moth never seems to have bored for itself, but occupies the cavity left by the curculio; and also in years when the crop of plums has failed, the number of black excrescences have very much increased. In an instance a few years since, wild cherry-trees, and plum of the natural growth, were literally covered with them, while the budded and more choice varieties escaped.

Respectfully, G. D.

BANNER WHEAT,

OR KLOSS BLUE STEM WINTER WHEAT.

We have occasionally made some remarks on this wheat. See pages 11 and 320. Brother Drew, of the Gospel Banner, in an excellent address before the Franklin (Maine) Agricultural Society, makes the following very interesting remarks on this subject: —

And speaking of personals, you will allow me to advert once more to my own experience with what I call the *Banner* wheat. I observed, that, originally, I received a single spoonful from the Patent Office, in Washington. Hon. Rufus McIntire, of Parsonsfield, also received the same quantity at the same time. This is all I have heard of in this country. Mr. McIntire's success in York county has been good. He has published accounts of it in the Boston papers. He thinks it *the* winter wheat for Maine. Last year I sent some of it into every county in our state. In some cases, it proved a failure; and I was glad it did, because it showed causes of failure not chargeable to the grain or to the climate. In all such cases, the wheat had been sown too late the preceding autumn, or on flat, heavy lands, liable to be heaved badly by frosts. Whenever sowed in August, or, if later, when sowed on sandy loam, where the water will not stand, and where the snow did not blow off by high winds sweeping over it, the wheat did well. I consider it perfectly sure against

the weevil on account of its earliness only; and for the same reason, nearly as sure against the rust. If the grain fills before the muggy, dog-day weather arrives, there is no danger from rust. Sown in August, it will ordinarily ripen early in July following, and that is before the weevils arrive, or the rusting weather begins.

I have taken a little pains to ascertain the average yield of this wheat the past season, and so far as I have been able to gain facts, I find that it has averaged twenty-five bushels per acre of one bushel's sowing. I ascertain, too, that in the counties of Kennebec and Somerset, on the Kennebec River, there have been, within a month past, three hundred bushels of it sown. Perhaps it would be but a reasonable calculation to say there has been as much sown in all the other (eleven) counties in the state; and if so, Mother Earth has already received six hundred bushels of that rich grain. Should what is sown now, yield as well next year as it has done the present, there will be in our state, by another July, fifteen thousand bushels, which will seed the whole state pretty well. I believe every farmer may find a piece of land on his farm, on which that wheat will be as sure as is corn; and if each man raised but one acre, it would greatly stop the terrible clanking of New York mills, so far as Maine ears are concerned.

A PROPOSITION TO STOCK BREEDERS.

We hope that the following proposition will be well considered, as the subject is of great interest to the agricultural community. Will some of the principal stock breeders in New England give their views upon it? Our columns are at their service. We copy from the Ohio Cultivator.

The idea has frequently occurred to me, and I have no doubt to thousands of others, while attending agricultural fairs in different sections of the Union, how both pleasing and profitable it would be, could the amateur stock breeders, throughout the United States, see the very best animals from the different sections brought together, and thus have an opportunity of ascertaining their real and relative merits. They could gain more knowledge which would be practically beneficial, at one such exhibition, than by attending all the state and county fairs held in one year in America even, was it practicable. They would have the animals of the different classes side by side, and thus be able to make strict comparative examinations. We presume the very best only would be presented, and consequently there would not be so much necessity for exercising a good oblivion as well as a good memory, in order to prevent the storehouse of memory from being overloaded with images of inferior animals, as when attending state and county fairs. Each one could readily ascertain what section produces animals having the traits he would especially desire developed in the greatest degree. Many other advantages of such a national exhibition might be enumerated; but I think they will at once suggest themselves to the enlightened stock breeder. I will therefore allude to but one more, which I consider far from the least important.

The opportunity by such an occasion for forming acquaintance, and an interchange of knowledge, at the time, and in future, would be worth five times the cost of attendance to most of the competitors, independent of other considerations. What intelligent stock breeder in the United States would hesitate to travel one thousand miles, if he knew, by so doing, he would have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with even the fifty most successful breeders in the Union, of the kind of stock in which he is particularly interested, and at the same time see their best stock? Then add the other inducements, and how could he stay away? I do not know that it would be best, at present, to have such a national fair annually; but I do think such a one, at least as often as once in five years, would be expedient, profitable, and every way desirable.

In order therefore to give so laudable an object a commencement in some definite form, I shall proceed to make the following proposition, which, if accepted by a sufficient number of my brother wool-growers, and responded to by similar propositions from breeders of other varieties of stock, will secure at least one national fair, and, if it is then thought desirable, give an eligible opportunity for forming a National Agricultural Society, and making arrangements for future exhibitions.

I propose to meet any number, not less than twenty breeders of Saxony sheep, at any suitable time and eligible place in the United States, and exhibit each one Saxony ram, as competitors for the following premiums; the amount necessary for obtaining said premiums to be raised in equal sums by the competitors in the same way it is done by the members of the different agricultural societies.

To the best, silver cup or pitcher worth				$30, other	
silver ware worth . .				$35, and $40	in money.
To the 2d best, silver ware worth				40, and 40	"
" 3d	"	"	"	40, and 30	"
" 4th	"	"	"	30, and 30	"
" 5th	"	"	"	25, and 25	"
" 6th	"	"	"	20, and 20	"
" 7th	"	"	"	15, and 15	"
" 8th	"	"	"	15, and 10	"
" 9th	"	"	"	14, and 8	"
" 10th	"	"	"	10, and 8	"

The silver plate, of course, to have the owner's name, with the award, engraved upon it.

I am willing to suggest that the exhibition in contemplation be held at Cincinnati in the autumn of 1850, at the same time as the Ohio State Fair, provided that fair does not occur before the middle of 10th month, (October.) Any time earlier would be ineligible on two accounts; the wool would not be long enough to show to advantage, and the Ohio River would in all probability not be in good navigable condition before about that time. I wish my suggestion, however, with regard to time and place, to only receive the consideration due to it, as coming from one individual proposing to compete. Should any other competitor think any other time and place more eligible, I shall for one be glad to see his suggestions. As it will be essential to a fair test, that the sheep be shorn as nearly as practicable on the same day, and there will be other arrangements to make, it is very desirable that those intending to compete, report themselves to T. C. Peters, editor of the Wool-Grower, or M. B. Bateham, editor of the Ohio Cultivator, before the 1st of 3d month, (March,) and the names be published in the different agricultural papers, as reported, that they may have an opportunity of communicating. W. H. LADD.

RICHMOND, JEFFERSON Co., O., 10*th* *Mo.* 16*th*, '49.

P. S. I am very desirous that those, at least, owning other distinct varieties of sheep, or their crosses, which appear to be advantageous, should make and respond to similar propositions, varying the terms to suit themselves. W. H. L.

Remarks. — We heartily approve of the foregoing suggestions and proposition of our friend Ladd; and we hope the subject will receive that consideration on the part of stock breeders which its importance demands. We trust that editors of agricultural papers, throughout the Union, will call the attention of their readers to this matter, so as to elicit discussion, and eventually lead to the adoption of some

plan by which a national fair may be established, if deemed practicable.

If the proposition for commencing a fair of this kind next year should be seconded by a sufficient number of breeders of fine sheep, we would suggest one slight alteration in the terms of the proposition, to wit; that the premium be awarded for the best two or three animals (instead of one) of the class named. We would further suggest that the committee of judges on fine wooled sheep, should consist of the proprietors of the three principal wool depots, to wit; T. C. Peters of Buffalo, John Brown of Springfield, and H. Blanchard of Kinderhook.

Now, gentlemen wool-growers, do you say "Hurrah for the national fair, and the sweepstake premiums"? If so, send on your names as competitors for 1850. — *Ed. Cul.*

TIME FOR APPLYING MANURES TO MOWING FIELDS.

The following is extracted from the report of the committee on improvements of the Plymouth Agricultural Society, Hon. Morrill Allen, chairman. In England, where the climate is very moist, the best time to apply manure to mowing lands, is immediately after the hay is taken off; and this period is found to be the best time in this country, when it is very wet immediately after the crop is removed, as the rowen soon starts up and shades the manure; but if the weather should be dry and hot, as is usually the case, much of the manure would be wasted by evaporation. We copy from the report.

Several years since, we offered premiums for experiments to determine the best time to apply manure to mowing fields. This would seem an easy experiment, and the result more certain than in many other cases. Two experimenters, however, came to different conclusions, and it was judged advisable to renew the offers. Unfortunately these offers have called forth no competition. There is but one applicant, Mr. George W. Wood, of Middleborough; and he has failed of conducting the experiment in all respects according to the rules given.

It does not appear in his statement that he weighed any beside the product of the land manured in May and August the present year. All should have been carefully weighed the second year. The comparisons of that year would have been quite as important as those of the present. The object of the requisition to weigh this year was to ascertain the ultimate influence of the applications in different months. It appears that one eighth of the acre selected was lower and moister land than the residue. This circumstance would manifestly make the comparison unjust, and give the moist plat a greater or less yield, according to the character of the season. Owing to the neglect of weighing the products of the several plats the second year, we have no means of full comparisons, excepting between the months of May and August. The applicant states that the plat dressed in August was moister land than that dressed in May, therefore favored by the character of the past season. Notwithstanding this circumstance, the aggregate amount of hay produced on the land dressed in May was ninety-three pounds more than that dressed in August. We have supposed that spring dressing would generally produce the greatest amount of grass; but it is not a convenient season either for the preparation or the application of manure to mowing fields. The general practice will properly be to dress mowing grounds the last of summer and in the autumnal months. According to the experiment now before us, it would seem that some preference should be given to the month of August; but the influence will be nearly as great in any of the fall months, and farmers may consult their convenience, if they will be true to their interest, and apply an abundance of manure in some of the months. The committee think in plain and easy processes there should be strict compliance with rules. In view of Mr. W.'s omissions, the award of the premium is withheld, and a gratuity recommended of six dollars.

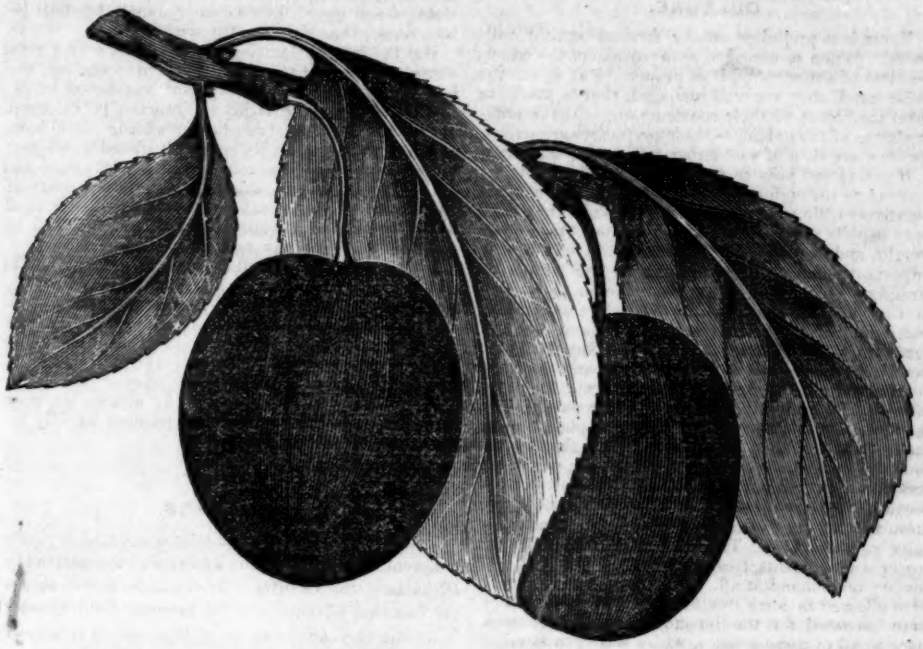
REMARKS ON DRAINING.

We all well know that wheat and other grains, as well as grasses, are never fully developed, nor produce good seed, when the roots are soaked in moisture. No man ever raised good wheat from a wet or moist subsoil. Now, many farms of this country, though at times during the summer they appear dry, and crack open on the surface, are not in fact dry farms. On the contrary, for nine months out of twelve, they are moist or wet; and we need no better evidence of the fact, than the annual freezing out of the plant, and consequent poverty of many crops. Need we say more to convince you of the necessity for draining your farms?

Now comes the question, How is this great good to be accomplished? What is the best method? What will it cost? And above all, what will it pay? These inquiries we will endeavor to meet. The statements, though brief, will doubtless lead you to renewed inquiries, and an active search for information.

The inquiry, How is this great good to be accomplished? What is the best method? will lead me to speak of various probable localities, each of which needs a different treatment. Thus we have in several of our towns portions that may be called *bogs*, being generally too wet to sustain the weight of a man, and where the water seems to rise from below. These lands are very retentive of moisture, acting like a sponge; but when drained, are often found to be very fertile and productive. To drain lands of this description, the first important step is, to ascertain the nature of the strata of earth, which the nearest high grounds may possess, in order to know whether the main supply of water does or does not flow from them. In almost all cases, such is the case, and leads us at once to cut a drain, or ditch, just above the level of the bog on the higher ground, and so deep as to intercept the waters as they descend, and by means of this ditch to lead them off towards the lowest point, thus arresting the supply of water, collecting it into one channel, and cutting it off from its usual ramifications through the bog. In time, the bog will have become so firm as to be traversed readily, though it remains wet and marshy. Smaller open drains, or ditches, should now be dug from the lowest point of the bog, to be connected with the deeper and larger ditch on the higher ground, the connection to be made at the greatest depression of the latter. Smaller lateral ditches may now be cut, leading into the main; and thus the bog will be drained and rendered fit for cultivation. — *American Agriculturist.*

A Bird's-Eye View of the Universe. — Suppose this earth to be a ball of one foot in diameter; on that scale of proportion the sun would be one hundred feet in diameter, and the moon three inches. The sun would be two miles from us, — the moon thirty feet — Jupiter ten miles from the sun, and Herschel forty miles. The loftiest mountains upon the surface of the earth would be one eightieth of an inch in height.



MANNING'S LONG BLUE PRUNE PLUM.

The origin of this valuable plum is uncertain. Mr. Manning procured the tree from Landreth's nursery. And although it has been known to the public for a number of years, it has not generally been duly estimated. The size is good, the quality excellent, and its long keeping on the tree gives it an important advantage, for the market, over transient fruits that quickly pass away.

The fruit is quite large; oval, with slight suture; stem long and slender, set in a slight depression; the skin a dark purple, or nearly black, covered with a thick blue bloom; the flesh yellowish, firm, rather juicy, of a rich, sweet, sprightly flavor. Freestone. Ripens in September. It bears carriage well, and is well adapted to the market. The tree is a prodigious grower and great bearer.

FENCE POSTS.

We are often asked for the best method for preparing fence posts.

When practicable, always put the upper or limb end of the post in the ground, thus reversing the position in which it grew. The valvular arrangement of the capillary tubes of wood is such, that the moisture from the ground will rise if placed root end down, and thus assist to decompose the wood; but if the post is reversed, the moisture will not rise, and thereby the decay will in part be prevented.

As additional security against decay, any of the following may be adopted: —

Insert the end of the post intended to be placed in the ground, in a weak solution of corrosive sublimate, to the depth of its intended insertion: this is called *kyanizing;* and if thoroughly done, so that the wood be saturated, the bottom will outlast the upper part of the post.

Burn the lower end of the post, and while hot, plunge it into melted tar, or petroleum: coal tar will answer.

If the end of charred posts be soaked in a solution of sulphate of iron, (common copperas,) for one week before being placed in the ground, they will last for a lifetime. The tops of posts should be tarred after they are in the ground, and the sun will cause the tar to enter the grain of the wood, and thus close it against rain, insects, &c. — *Working Farmer.*

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL FOR SEEDS.

The ground for the reception of fine seeds of vegetables should be broken up in the preceding year, and well manured in autumn, and rendered fine in spring by repeated ploughing, and harrowing, or raking. Plough and manure deep, for deep-rooted vegetables; but manure near the surface only for all others. Potatoes and Indian corn answer well, and produce large crops in ground newly broken up. Very fine seeds should be sown in a newly-prepared, fresh soil, and covered only a quarter of an inch deep; larger seeds deeper in proportion to their size; and the ground to be immediately trodden hard, or rolled with a heavy roller. This enables the earth to preserve its moisture at its surface, where at the same time the seeds may receive the necessary degree of heat from the sun, and vegetate at once, striking root downwards. Fine seeds, if sown too deep, are liable to perish. — *Kenrick's Orchardist.*

There are twenty-five thousand known species of fishes.

ADVANTAGE OF RAILROADS TO AGRICULTURE.

There is a prejudice among farmers against railroads. When so managed as to partake of the odious features of a monopoly, it is proper. But if, on the other hand, they are well managed, that is, made to fulfil the object of their construction, — the accommodation of the public, — these prejudices are wrong, for they are then of vast importance to the farmers.

If considered only as a means of rapid transit for passengers through a country, they would be of comparatively little use; and it is in that light they have been usually regarded. But when made to convey freight, and at reasonable rates, they become a very important element in conducing to the profits of farming. Our products are valuable in proportion to the cheapness and facility whereby they may be transported to market. The great consumers of the agricultural products of this state are New York and the New England States; and for nearly half the year we have no means of reaching them, except by railroad. It has only been about three years since the absurd restrictions which had been placed upon the Central line have been removed, so that freight could be carried. Previous to that time, our fresh pork, poultry, and butter were sold at a low figure, because we were shut out of those markets where these articles are in demand, during the winter, for daily consumption. The average ruling price for butter was ten cents, fresh pork $3 per hundred, and poultry no demand at all. But as soon as the roads were allowed to carry freight, and long before they were prepared for the business, an advance took place in all of these articles, which has been steadily maintained. The rise upon fresh pork has been equal to $2.50 on each hog fattened for market; upon butter, two cents per pound, and upon eggs, poultry, beef, mutton, and cheese, it has been equally large. Of this advance of price there can be no doubt, and it is equally certain that it has been caused by the facilities of transportation furnished by railroads in this state and east.

Let us see now what the farmers have really gained by these roads.

According to the state census of 1845, the whole number of hogs was	1,584,344
Allow for stores, one third, and the number fattened would be about	1,000,000
Deduct for home consumption, say one third, or	300,000
Leaving for market that year	700,000

The natural increase would be large, but increased price would stimulate production; so that it is safe to assume that the number of hogs in this state to be fattened for market this year will exceed 1,000,000, two thirds of which will be so situated as to be affected in price by one or other of our railroads. This would give, say 700,000, which, allowing an advance from former rates of only $2 per hog, would give $1,400,000 for only one branch.

Of butter, there was made during the year 1835	79,501,733 lbs.	
Deduct for home consumption, one third, say	26,000,000	
Balance for market, say		53,000,000 lbs.

At least two thirds of this, say 36,000,000 lbs., experienced a rise from the beneficial operations of the roads. The advance upon this was equal to two cents per pound, say $720,000, making a clear gain per annum to the farmers of this state of over two millions of dollars in but two articles of farm produce. Upon other articles there has been a large gain, so that it is safe to say, that for the current year the farmers will be benefited by means of railroads, as a means of transportation of farm products, at least three millions of dollars. The sum, at first sight, seems large; but we are persuaded it falls below, rather than exceeds, the true amount.

But the benefit does not stop here; for a very great stimulant is given to agricultural improvement, and land is made to yield much larger and better crops; so that, in fact, our farms are practically enlarged, not by adding more acres, but by adding more labor and skill to the soil. By careful husbandry, we may treble the average products of most of our crops, and not then arrive at any thing like the full capacity of our farms. And is it not better to add to our land by better thrift in farming, than to sell out and be constantly seeking new and cheap lands?

It has been well and often said, that he who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before, is a public benefactor. And if railroads, when properly managed, are the means of adding largely to the direct profits of the farmer, as we have endeavored to show they do, then they are entitled to be regarded with favor rather than jealousy or dislike, by those who are so much benefited; and so we trust they will be in future, and their number rapidly increased. — *Wool-Grower.*

RAILROADS.

The favorable influence of railroads on agriculture is becoming more and more known and appreciated in all parts of the country. The article below shows the immense advantage to the farmers in the interior in having their animals carried to a market in a short time, at a moderate expense, and without injury to the animals which they must necessarily suffer in a long and fatiguing journey.

By railroads and steamboats, sections once remote are now, as it were, brought near to good markets; for live stock and various other productions can be quickly and cheaply carried to market. This affords all the advantages of nearness to market, by the old method of travelling and transportation. We copy from the Lowell Courier,

The Cattle Train. — The cattle train, last night, numbered two hundred and fifty cars. It came over the Northern road in four sections, over the Concord road in two, and in the same manner over the Nashua and Lowell. The first section arrived in Lowell about quarter past 12, bringing ninety-eight cars, eighty-four of which were laden with cattle, horses, and sheep. About 3 this morning, the balance, one hundred and five, came in. There were seventy-four cars of cattle, horses, and sheep, making, in the whole train, one hundred and fifty-eight cars of live stock! There were one hundred and eight cars started from the Central road, fifty-eight of which came this way, and the other half went over the Fitchburg road. We learn that five hundred sheep were left over at Montpelier, and some twenty car loads would have come down from the Passumpsic, had there been accommodations.

SALT IN AGRICULTURE.

We copy the following from the Rev. Morrill Allen's report on improvements, to the Plymouth Agricultural Society.

A carefully-conducted experiment has been made by Horace Collamore, of Pembroke, in the application of salt; the result of which shows no influence to encourage to much extent the use of the article as

a fertilizer. In an experiment, several years ago, by Mr. Alden, of East Bridgewater, the results were something more favorable; but there was not enough efficacy manifested in that instance to justify any thing like a general use of salt as a manure. From observation we think it highly beneficial, and a very enduring fertilizer on some soils, and on some that it produces no visible effect. Trials on a small scale will best serve to show where it can be used with profit. In the orchard and nursery, it can always be used with benefit, as a preventive of insects, care being taken not to have it come in contact with tender trees, as it would kill them much quicker than insects. In the culture of plants of marine origin, salt may be pretty freely used, and with great benefit. The applicant for the premium appears to have complied with all the conditions of the offer, and therefore ought to receive it, though little or no benefit accrue to the public. To Mr. Collamore is awarded ten dollars.

INFLUENZA IN HORSES.

Eds. Cultivator: The disease I am about to consider under the above appellation, is better known among horsemen by that of *distemper*. From the real nature and proper treatment of this affection not being properly understood, the number of horses which annually fall a sacrifice to its influence is almost beyond conception.

The character of this, like many other diseases, varies according to the season of the year, as well as the state and condition in which the animal is placed at the time of being attacked. It most frequently occurs when the weather is changeable, particularly in the spring and autumn months; and from being prevalent in some seasons more than in others, it has in consequence been considered to be a contagious disease; but the most probable cause appears to me to be sudden atmospheric changes, as from dry to wet, and from hot to cold. In its simplest or least complicated forms, it bears a resemblance to common cold, (catarrh;) the mucous membrane of the "air passages" is its primary and principal seat, generally commencing in the chambers of the nose, and upper part of the throat, extending in some instances down the windpipe, and its ramifications, the bronchial tubes; or it may go still farther, and ultimately involve the whole substance of the lungs.

In some subjects, its attack is very slight. The horse is first observed to be languid and dull; he refuses part or the whole of his feed of grain — occasionally coughs; he is incapable of undergoing any considerable exertion; signs of soreness of his throat are soon observed; the food cannot be swallowed as usual; the slightest compression of the throat makes the animal flinch, and sets him coughing; the mouth is dry, and the membranes of the eye and nose are somewhat unusually red. In some severe cases, the soreness of the throat causes the animal to carry his neck stiff, with his nose projected; the food and water, when attempted to be swallowed, is forced back again through the nostrils; the glands about the throat are more or less swollen; the breathing is short, difficult, and painful, and attended with a peculiar hoarse sound in the throat. In other instances, the membrane lining the lungs (bronchiæ) receives the principal brunt of the disease; the horse now stands in his stall dull and listless, in one particular place; the breathing is short and quick, (but not deeply drawn;) the pulse is accelerated and weak; skin and legs rather warm than cold; membrane of the eye exhibits rather a yellowish-red cast; the discharge from the nose is also of a bilious hue.

It is not my intention in this article to attempt a description of all the characters that this disease occasionally assumes, but briefly to notice its most prominent features.

In determining the treatment of "influenza," regard must be paid to the seat and extent of the derangement constituting it, always bearing in mind that the tendency and certain issue of this disease is debility. Hence, in the generality of cases, the most cautious treatment is necessary; for if active measures are resorted to, such as large and repeated blood-letting, rowels, strong physic, &c., the horse becomes debilitated, his extremities (legs) enlarged and dropsical, and he either dies of "yellow-water," (dropsy,) or remains for a long time in a low and weak state.

At the commencement of the disease, it is necessary to keep the animal in a large stall, without exercise; and in the summer let the temperature be kept as cool as possible, cautiously avoiding a direct current of air. The diet may consist of scalded bran and hay, with tepid water, in which a few drachms of nitrate of potash (nitre) are dissolved, always within his reach; or it may be sweetened with honey or molasses, providing the patient likes it. The horse should be well wisped or brushed, and clothed warmly, particularly when he feels cold and shivers. If the bowels are constipated, two ounces of cream of tartar may be given in the drink every morning; and should the excretions appear pent up, the hand, oiled, is to be introduced, and the rectum emptied, and afterwards a clyster given, composed of gruel, linseed-tea, or a decoction of slippery elm.

When horses are of great value, I have suspended under their throat bags containing bran and linseed meal poultices, and renewed them every two hours, keeping the animal at the same time comfortably clothed. Or the throat may be well fomented with water as hot as a man can bear his hand immersed in, and steaming his nose with the vapor arising from it; after which the glands about the upper part of the windpipe should be well rubbed with the following liniment: alcohol one pint, camphor one ounce, soft soap four ounces, spirit of hartshorn, (water of ammonia,) two ounces. Simple means, such as these, will, in the generality of cases, be followed by the happiest result — a complete restoration to health. ARTHUR S. COPEMAN, *Utica.*

— *Albany Cultivator.*

NEW DISCOVERY IN AGRICULTURE.

An extraordinary fact was mentioned the other day at the sitting of the Academy of Sciences. One of the members stated that the Agricultural Society of Brest had, upon the proposition of a member of the committee, sown some wheat upon land without any preparation of ploughing or digging, and in one of the worst soils possible, and, after having merely walked over the ground to press the grain on the surface, had it covered with fresh straw to the thickness of two inches. The product was, it is asserted, more abundant and much superior in quality to wheat raised from the same seed in the ordinary way. Some ears of wheat, the seed of which had been placed upon window glass covered with straw, were also exhibited.

FLEETNESS OF THE REINDEER. — In consequence of the Norwegians making a sudden and unexpected irruption into the Swedish territories, an officer was despatched with a sledge and reindeer to Stockholm, to convey the intelligence; which he did with such speed that he performed 124 Swedish miles (about 800 English) in 48 hours; but his faithful animal dropped down lifeless on the Biddarhustorget, just after his arrival in the capital. The bearer of the news, as it is said, was in consequence ennobled, and assumed the name of Rhens-jurna, (Reindeer Star.)

— *Brooks's Winter in Lapland.*

Domestic Department.

CHEMISTRY FOR GIRLS.

BY E. THOMPSON, M. D.

SOMETHING THAT EVERY WOMAN SHOULD READ. — This is properly styled a utilitarian age, for the inquiry, "What profit?" meets us every where. It has entered the temples of learning, and attempted to thrust out important studies because their immediate connection with hard money profits cannot be demonstrated. There is one spot, however, into which it has not so generally intruded itself — the female academy — the last refuge of the fine arts and fine follies. Thither young ladies are too frequently sent, merely to learn how to dress tastefully and walk gracefully, play, write French, and make waxen plumes and silken spiders — all pretty; but why not inquire, "What profit?"

I take my pen not to utter a dissertation on female education, but to insist that young ladies be taught chemistry. They will thereby be better qualified to superintend domestic affairs, guard against many accidents to which households are subject, and perhaps be instrumental in saving life. We illustrate the last remark by reference merely to toxicology.

The strong acids, such as nitric, muriatic, and sulphuric, are virulent poisons, yet frequently used in medicine, and in the mechanic arts. Suppose a child, in his rambles among the neighbors, should enter a cabinet shop, and find a saucer of aqua fortis (nitric acid) upon the work bench, and, in his sport, seize and drink a portion of it. He is conveyed home in great agony. The physician is sent for; but ere he arrives, the child is a corpse. Now, as the mother presses the cold clay to her breast and lips for the last time, how will her anguish be aggravated to know that in her medicine chest, or drawers, was some calcined magnesia, which, if timely administered, would have saved her lovely, perchance her first and only boy! O, what are all the bouquets and fine dresses in the world to her, compared with such knowledge?

Take another case. A husband, returning home on a summer afternoon, desires some acidulous drink. Opening a cupboard, he sees a small box, labelled "salts of lemon;" and making a solution of this, he drinks it freely. Presently, he feels distress, sends for his wife, and ascertains that he has drank a solution of oxalic acid, which she has procured to take stains from linen. The physician is sent for, but the unavoidable delay attending his arrival is fatal. When he arrives, perhaps he sees upon the very table on which the weeping widow bows her head, a piece of chalk, which, if given in time, would have certainly prevented any mischief from the poison.

Corrosive sublimate is the article generally used to destroy the vermin which sometimes infest our couches. A solution of it is laid upon the floor in a tea-cup, when the domestics go down to dine, leaving the children up stairs at play; the infant crawls to the tea-cup, and drinks. Now, what think you would be the mother's joy, if, having studied chemistry, she instantly called to recollection the well-ascertained fact, that there is in the hen's nest an antidote to this poison? She sends for some eggs, and, breaking them, administers the whites. Her child recovers, and she weeps for joy. Talk to her of novels: one little book of natural science has been worth, to her, more than all the novels in the world.

Physicians in the country rarely carry scales with them to weigh their prescriptions. They administer medicines by guess, from a teaspoon or the point of a knife. Suppose a common case: A physician leaves an over-dose of tartar-emetic, (generally the first prescription in cases of bilious fever,) and pursues his way to another patient, ten miles distant. The medicine is duly administered, and the man is poisoned. When the case becomes alarming, one messenger is despatched for the doctor, and another to call in the neighbors to see the sufferer die. Now, there is, in a canister in the cupboard, and on a tree that grows by the door, a remedy for this distress and alarm — a sure means of saving the sick man from threatened death. A strong decoction of young hyson tea, oak bark, or any other astringent vegetable, will change tartar-emetic into a harmless compound.

Vessels of copper often give rise to poisoning. Though this metal undergoes but little change in a dry atmosphere, it is rusted if moisture be present, and its surface becomes covered with a green substance — carbonate or the protoxide of copper, a poisonous compound. It has sometimes happened that a mother has, for want of knowledge, poisoned her family. Sour krout, when permitted to stand for some time in a copper vessel, has produced death in a few hours. Cooks sometimes permit pickles to remain in copper vessels, that they may require a rich green color, which they do by absorbing poison.

Families have often been thrown into disease by eating such dainties, and many have died, in some instances without suspecting the cause. The lady has certainly some reason to congratulate herself upon her education, if, under such circumstances, she knows that pickles rendered green by verdigris, are poisonous, and that the white of an egg is an antidote.

Illustrations might be multiplied, but our space forbids. Enough has been shown, we hope, to convince the utilitarian that a knowledge of chemistry is an important element in the education of the female sex; that without it they are imperfectly qualified for the duties devolving upon them in the domestic relation, and poorly prepared to meet its emergencies. — *Literary Gazette.*

TO KEEP A STOVE AS BRIGHT AS A COACH-BODY, BY TWO APPLICATIONS A YEAR. — Make a weak alum-water, and mix your "British Lustre" with it, perhaps two teaspoons to a gill of alum-water: let the stove be cold, brush it with the mixture, then take a dry brush and dry lustre, and rub the stove till it is perfectly dry. Should any part, before polishing, become so dry as to look gray, moisten it with a wet brush, and proceed as before.

Boys' Department.

TAME FISHES. — A correspondent of the Boston Journal, writing from Hingham, tells the following singular story: —

We found conveyances on the wharf in Hingham, to take passengers to the hotels at the head of Nantasket Beach, and to every other place. While seated on the new-mown hay, under fine oaks and elms over one hundred years old, we felt satisfied with our situation, compared with those whom we left frying in Boston. We took the younger members of the party to visit Wear River Iron Foundery, and the pond near it, and Miss Thomas's *pets* — the fish and turtle in it. This child of nine years has fed these fish four years with bread. She was first amused by throwing the crumbs into the water when she ate her meals on the stones of the bank; and seeing the fish dart for them, she took an interest in the fish, and has fed them regularly since. Strange as it may seem, they know her voice. On our

requesting her to feed and call them, she did so, and called, "Tute, tute, tute," several times. Directly we could see the turtle popping their heads up over the pond, then swim to her, and take the bread from her hands. The fish did the same; several hundred of which consisting of large black pouts, six to eight inches long, shiners and minnows of all sizes, flocked around her, perfectly tame. The turtles were of two kinds, "snappers" and the common yellow spotted ones. This was a most interesting sight, and well worth a long ride to see it. The distance is but half a mile from the Old Colony House, and depot of the railroad near it. The taming of these fishes shows what kindness and regular treatment will do, aided by a gentle voice, in taming animals which have been considered stupid. We promised to send Miss T. some gold fish to add to her pets. She, by the way, allows no one to feed the fishes but herself, and no one to catch them. — *Selected.*

Health.

Expanding the Chest. — Those in wealthy circumstances, or who pursue sedentary employments within doors, generally use their lungs but very little, breathe but very little air into the chest, and thus, independently of positions, contract a wretchedly narrow, small chest, and lay the foundation for the loss of health and beauty. All this can be perfectly obviated by a little attention to the manner of breathing. Recollect the lungs are like a bladder in their structure, and can be stretched open to double their ordinary size, with perfect safety, giving a noble chest, and perfect immunity from consumption. The agent, and the only agent required, is the common air we breathe, supposing, however, that no obstacle exist, external to the chest, such as lacing, or tying it around with stays, or tight dress, or having shoulders lay upon it. On rising from the bed in the morning, place yourself in an erect posture, your chest thrown back, and shoulders entirely off the chest; now inhale or suck in all the air you can, so as to fill the chest to the very bottom of it, so that no more air can be got in; now hold your breath, and throw your arms off behind, holding in your breath as long as possible. Repeat these long breaths as many times as you please. Done in a cold room is much better, because the air is much denser, and will act much more powerfully in expanding the chest. Exercising the chest in this manner, it will become very flexible and expansible, and will enlarge the capacity and size of the lungs. — *Common School Advocate.*

The Force of Imagination. — A Lucchese peasant, shooting sparrows, saw his dog attacked by a strange and ferocious mastiff. He tried to separate the animals, and received a bite from his own dog, which instantly ran off through the fields. The wound was healed in a few days, and the dog was not to be found; and the peasant, after some time, began to feel symptoms of nervous agitation. He conceived that the dog, from disappearing, was mad; and within a day or two after this idea had struck him, he began to feel symptoms of hydrophobia. They grew hourly more violent; he raved, and had all the evidences of the most violent distemper. As he was lying, with the door open, to let in the last air that he was to breathe, he heard his dog bark. The animal ran up to the bed-side, and frolicked about the room. It was clear that he, at least, was in perfect health. The peasant's mind was relieved at the instant; he got up with renewed strength, dressed himself, plunged his head into a basin of water, and thus refreshed walked into the room to his astonished family. The statement is made in a memoir by Professor Barbantini; and it is not improbable that many attacks of a disease so strongly dependent on the imagination, might be equally cured by ascertaining the state of the animal by which the bite was given.

An Artificial Leech. — We learn from an article in the Paris Journal des Debats, quoted in Tuesday's Courrier des Etats Unis, that an important discovery, which is likely to be of the greatest service to humanity, occupies at this moment the attention of the French scientific world. It is a mechanical leech, (*sangsue mecanique,*) which M. Alexander, civil engineer, already celebrated for his useful discoveries, has submitted to the judgment of all the scientific bodies, which, after satisfactory trials, have caused this *sangsue* to be adopted in all the hospitals, after having proved, not only the immense economy of its use, but, what is better, the decided advantages which it has over the natural leech, often so rare, always repugnant to the patient, and sometimes dangerous. The president of the French republic has given orders for the supply of the apparatus in every commune where it may be found serviceable by indigent patients.

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

A dry Clay Brick Press. — We recently examined, in the hall of the Franklin Hotel, Chestnut Street, a model of one of the most ingenious and successful machines for brick making, that has ever yet been produced. It is the invention of Mr. T. Culbertson, and is patented by Messrs. Culbertson & Scott, of this city. Already one of these presses is in full action near New Orleans, where the Biloxi Steam Brick Company have entered into contract to supply thirty millions of bricks — chiefly for the building of the new custom-house in the great southern capital and port. The machine is very strong, simple in its construction, has but few wearing surfaces, requires but little power to drive it, and but a few hands to attend it. It is self-feeding and self-delivering, and operates with great certainty and accuracy, and will make with ease 25,000 brick per day, requiring no preparation of the clay other than pulverizing or running through rollers attached to the machine, and no yard room for drying, as the bricks are sufficiently hard to stack up in the kiln at once. The brick are of a uniform size and shape, are harder, smoother, and stronger, and, being less porous, will absorb much less water; and (it is also a well-established fact) will stand fire better than those made in the ordinary way. The pressure, being gradual and continuous, allows the air to escape freely as the clay is forced into the moulds; and as each mould passes twice under the cylinder, first in one and then in the other direction, receiving clay from the hoppers each way, the brick is not only full and perfect in all the corners and edges, but the different particles of clay are by this rolling or kneading process completely united. By a slight alteration of the moulds alone, brick of any desired size or shape may be made for paving, lining cisterns, building arches, &c. As the works will all be under cover, brick can be made as well in wet as in dry weather; they can also be made earlier in the spring and later in the fall than in the ordinary way.

A large "brick press" is about to be erected immediately at the extensive brick fields of Messrs. C. & S., at Pea Shore, four miles from Camden, N. J., in which we learn that the enormous pressure of

one hundred tons will be applied to the formation and compression of each brick. — *Monthly American Farmer.*

NEW INVENTION IN BAKING. — The Glasgow Citizen (Scotch paper) says that a machine has been invented in that city which both kneads the dough and moulds the loaves into the required shape, ready for the oven. One machine, not quite a yard in length and eighteen inches in breadth, by the attendance of one man, accomplished as much work as five bakers, and the bread was of the best quality. The Citizen also says that "by a new and original process of mixing and kneading, which can be done either with or without barm, (yeast,) the usual loss of weight attributed to evaporation in 'raising the sponge' is avoided, and a great saving of flour, as well as time and labor, is effected."

ANALYSES OF MANURES.

At a late meeting of the Highland Agricultural Society, Mr. Finne spoke of the great advantage which had been derived by farmers, in Scotland, from the analyses of portable manures, upon which, he estimated, nearly one half of the green crop of that country is dependent. The amount of guano, for instance, imported in 1837, was upwards of 220,000 tons. Great adulteration had been practised with guano; and bone-dust had been mixed with ground oyster-shells. Various manufactured manures, of the constituents of which the farmer could not be acquainted, were offered for sale. In illustration, he related the following: "Some years ago, I joined with two or three farmers in the purchase of some tons of nitrate of soda. None of us derived any benefit from the application of it. Most fortunately I had some left — got it analyzed by Mr. Kemp, at the college; and when the secret was explained, it was to a great extent mixed with common salt. I heard of a cargo shipped to a party in London; a chemist was ordered to examine it before taking it from the ship. The adulteration was detected, and immediately the ship load was ordered off to Scotland, and sold amongst the farmers. I once purchased a quantity of guano from a party in Leith. Professor Johnston had given an analysis of it; but the sample sent to him had been very different from the stock. I found, upon taking delivery, that all was not right. I then had a sample from the stock analyzed, and had no difficulty in procuring an abatement of ten per cent. from difference of value. I cannot conceive how any agriculturist who expends his hundreds a year upon portable manures is justified in applying them before being tested, and would grudge a few shillings per annum to obtain a chemist of skill who could satisfy him as to the purity of the article upon which he is not only expending a large sum of money, but upon the genuineness of which his green crop, and every succeeding crop in the rotation, is dependent; for, without a knowledge of the nature and properties of the materials employed by the agriculturist, it is evident that the result of many of the laborious and extensive processes incident to his daily occupation must be a matter of mere chance — thus contributing more than any thing else to the precariousness of the profits upon which his prosperity depends. I may be told this is a tenant's question, and let him look after his own interest, and he will fare the better; but I hold whatever is necessary for the tenant cannot be dispensed with by the landlord; and if, from not having a ready and cheap way of having his manures analyzed, the loss of a crop is the consequence, is not the landlord's rent endangered? But I would respectfully submit that these portable manures, now so important an element in good farming, and for which I would say a chemist's services are required, leaving every other consideration, have done much already for the proprietors of land." — *Canadian Agriculturist.*

THE BEGINNING OF GOOD MANAGEMENT.

Mr. Editor: Although considerable improvements have been made in farming in this country, still it is just enough to remark that our agriculture, with very few exceptions, is not what it ought to be. More thorough and better modes of culture should be adopted by the great body of our farmers, than those now practised. If we would adopt for our motto, *Be Thorough*, — that is, if, whatever we undertake to perform, we would take especial care that our work be done in a manner as nearly perfect as possible, — it is easy enough to foresee that we should receive a liberal reward for our labor. A field imperfectly ploughed will not often afford a fair return, though ever so fertile; then ask the skilful farmer how little is the difference in expense, where the work is most thoroughly done, or where the same is performed in a hasty, slovenly, and imperfect manner.

Let the farmer who never attempted to increase his manures by artificial means, begin — yes, we say *begin* — good management in this particular; if he cannot haul a hundred loads of muck the first year, he certainly can ten; and who can calculate the benefits which may be gained, both by himself and the community, by beginning a course of good management?

Let the farmer who neglected to hoe either his garden or his potatoes at the right time, and in the best manner possible, through a press of other business, or from whatever cause, resolve to avoid these errors in the future. Certainly we would not censure harshly an industrious farmer for an error or two, which he is desirous of correcting; but we would hope that by a better arrangement of his business, and a better system of management, he may hereafter be able to avoid all similar errors.

In the construction of fences, the farmer should act wisely. The difference in expense between what would be called a *tolerably good fence*, and one that is absolutely impregnable, is a mere trifle; and how often do we find that unruly cattle will break over a *tolerably good fence!*

Let the farmer who does not take an agricultural paper, subscribe for one forthwith. Public opinion is beginning to be in favor of agricultural papers and agricultural improvement; and may we not hope that the time has nearly come, when our farmers generally will be eager to adopt more improved modes of husbandry — when science shall triumph over prejudice and ignorance, and when the best interests of our country shall be more thoroughly understood and supported? J. E. ROLFE.

RUMFORD, *September*, 1849.

— *Maine Farmer.*

IRON FOR APPLE-TREES.

A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator, writing from Fredericksburg, Va., says, "A friend, who has a large orchard of 'Raule's Janette apple,' has ten trees, upon one corner of the orchard, which always produce fruit a third larger, and flavor so much superior, that it was supposed, by all who saw and ate the apple, that they were a superior variety of the Janette. This spring I examined the soil, and found that a vein of iron ore passed just under the ten trees, so near the surface that it had been

ploughed and worked up with the top soil. A variety of the large Blue plum, growing upon the same ground, is also very fine; while grafts taken from the same plum-trees, and worked upon stocks grown on different soil, prove worthless."

THE HORSE.

The horse is a noble animal, and is distinguished for his intelligence and sagacity; and with proper treatment, he is remarkable for his docility and obedience. This animal is not only necessary and useful in a high degree, but he contributes largely to the pleasures of man. What a shame, then, that he should so often be subjected to the harsh treatment of brutal masters! The following article, which we copy from the Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper, contains valuable instruction on the treatment of this noble animal.

There is no domestic animal, perhaps, more subject to blemishes than the horse; none whose usefulness depends more upon proper treatment; and none, when rightly managed, which contributes more to satisfy the wants of mankind. A few suggestions on this subject is the object of this communication. The best way for a man, when about to purchase a horse, if he be not a good judge of one, is to take him for a while on trial. If the vender is unwilling to let him go for that purpose, then be unwilling to purchase him; for, as a general rule, in such cases, the horse has some defects which you would not discover, except by trial. If, when using him in various conditions and circumstances, he is found to be sound and good in every respect, then it can be pretty safely relied on that he is a good horse. If all mankind were perfectly honest to tell the whole truth concerning the horse, there would be no necessity of a resort to this expedient; but as the generality of men are, so we must take them. People who have dealt much in horses generally understand the various defects to which they are liable, and can easily discover them by a little trial, although they may not at first be visible.

In judging by the outward appearance of a horse, his size should be proportioned to the work in which he is chiefly to be employed. Small horses are generally considered to be the toughest, and the cost of their keeping is less than large ones; so that they are the most profitable to keep, unless they are to perform very heavy work, as ploughing, carting gravel, &c. His head should be as small as the proportion of the animal will admit; his muscles smooth and fine; his eyes prominent and cheerful; his ears small and upright, and placed near together; his neck, from his shoulders, thick and deep, and, with a moderate tapering, should join the head in a comely manner; his shoulders, well thrown back, should extend to the neck with a gentle tapering; his chest should be deep and full at the girth; his thighs strong and muscular, and well formed; his hoof circular, and wide at the heel, neither disproportionably large, as it will make him clumsy and apt to fall; his body should be long and round, with the ribs extending well behind. In a word, symmetry and beauty should be sought in every part.

Particular attention should be given to feeding horses. The neglect of this is, doubtless, one great reason why we see many so mean and despicable.

The stable should be warm, and at all times well littered, as horses are often made lame by standing on a hard floor; besides, it adds very much to their comfort. They should be well curried every day, and in the winter, unless the stable is very warm, should be blanketed.

The horse should never be permitted to undergo any violent or excessive labor. All racing, and profuse sweating, therefore, should be avoided, as they cannot be indulged in with impunity; but it may sometimes be unavoidable that he should perform an unusual day's work, and that too, perhaps, in snow or rain. In such cases, particular attention must be given to his keeping previous to the time, as well as during the day. At night, let him be placed in a warm stable, on a good bed of straw. Then remove all dirt from his legs with soap and warm water. Curry him well, and smooth his hair down with a piece of cloth or sheepskin. Then wash his legs with vinegar or spirits, to which may be added a little melted lard, or oil. Give him a moderate supper, and after he has ate a while, let him be watered, which should never be done when he is sweaty, except he be allowed to drink only a very small quantity. In this manner the horse will be nearly as well prepared the next morning for another day's journey, as if he had done nothing on the preceding day.

It may be useless to say any thing on whipping horses; but this barbarous practice is so common, that a few words may not be inappropriate. It is contended by some that it is absolutely necessary, sometimes, to whip them. Experience and observation have generally convinced reflecting people that such a course is erroneous, and that it rarely fails to increase the faults which it was intended to diminish. Individuals, who indulge in using the lash, become accustomed to it, so much that they are hardly conscious when they do whip their poor beast, which, although, perhaps, almost ready to drop down with fatigue, cannot speak a word of complaint, nor shed a tear of grief to move the pitiless heart of its master. When we see an individual very harsh with his oxen or cows, as well as his horses, there we behold a very fractious and wild team. His oxen fear his voice and lash, and whenever they can, they will run away from him, as a man would from a tiger. His cows are no less fractious. They have to be put in the barn, and not unfrequently to have their legs tied before they can be milked. In such cases, no good ever results from whipping. Why not, then, restrain the temper and spare the lash? Do it once, conquer the passions once, and the next time it will be easier. Coax these animals, rather than compel them by the lash: it will be for your benefit, as well as theirs. Above all, spare the horse. If any thing will move the human sympathy of man, it is the sight of one of these domestic animals, which has nearly finished his life, and which has performed a great deal of hard labor under a tyrant for a master.

"His skin is sore with stripes, and he tottereth beneath
his burden;
His limbs are stiff with age, his sinews have lost their
vigor,
And pain is stamped upon his face while he wrestleth
unequally with his toil;
Yet once more mutely and meekly endureth he the
crushing blow;
That struggle hath cracked his heart-strings, — the generous brute is dead.
Liveth there no advocate for him? No judge to avenge
his wrongs?
No voice that shall be heard in his defence? No sentence
to be passed on his oppressor?
Yea, the sad eye of the tortured pleadeth pathetically
for him:
Yea, all the justice in heaven is roused in indignation at
his woes:
Yea, all the pity upon earth shall call down a curse upon
the cruel:
Yea, the burning malice of the wicked is their own exceeding punishment.
The angel of mercy stoppeth not to comfort, but passeth
by on the other side,
And hath no tears to shed when a cruel man is damned."

HANOVER, N. H., 1849. M. F.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

From Dr. W. Hosford, Orford, N. H., Coe's Golden Drop plums. These plums were well grown, but there was something peculiar in their appearance and taste. We thought this peculiarity might be owing to their having been touched by the frost. This is one of the very finest of plums, but it is late, and requires a warm soil and location, and a favorable season to come to perfection in this region. It may be kept long after it is ripe. We think there are but few situations where it will succeed well north of this latitude.

We have a half barrel of Early Purple potatoes, from Salmon Buckminster, Lynn. They are very acceptable, as those which we raised, last summer, from seed which Mr. B. gave us, were too good to keep. This potato is one of the very earliest, and of the best quality. It is considerably cultivated in New Hampshire, generally under the name of *Early Blues*. But it is purple, not blue, and Early Blue is the name of a very old, very early, and excellent variety with a rough skin; and it does not yield so well as the Purple, which yields well for so early a variety. It is as forward and good as the Early White Blue Nose, or Eastport potato, and more productive.

Grapes from Colonel Chase, and apples from Mr. Spaulding; and other presents will be noticed in our next number.

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

The American Flora, and Illustrated Natural History, by Dr. Strong, published by Green & Spencer, New York, are among the most interesting and valuable periodicals of the day. The illustrations of these works are beautiful and accurate.

Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture sustains its high rank for originality and accuracy. Each number contains several figures, and elaborate descriptions of fruits, foreign and native.

Annual Report to the Lot Holders of the Cemetery of Spring Grove, and the Public, for 1849.

Report of the Autumnal Exhibition of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society. We hope to glean some valuable facts from the doings of this association. Friend Ernst is the president.

The Farmer's Almanac, by A. Maynard. Phillips, Sampson, & Co., publishers. This work is the sixth number, under the author; and the publishers have good encouragement, and consider the work permanently established. Besides the usual astronomical calculations, this work contains much useful and interesting matter, and it is interspersed with blank paper for memorandums.

Fowls. — We would call attention to the advertisement of Choice Fowls on our cover. Mr. Coffin's show at the fair attracted much attention.

The way to gain a good reputation, is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear.

SINGING BIRD'S PETITION TO SPORTSMEN.

Wouldst thou have me fall, or fly?
Hear me sing, or see me die?
If thy heart is cold and dull,
Knowing nothing beautiful —
If thy proud eye never glows
With the light love only knows —
If the loss of friends or home
Ne'er hath made life wearisome —
If thy cheek has never known
Tears that fall from sorrow's moan —
If a hopeless mother's sigh
Brings no tear-drop from thine eye,
Thou mayst smile to see me die!

But if thou canst love the lay,
Welcoming the birth of May —
Or summer's song, or autumn's dirge,
Cheering winter's dreary verge —
If thou lovest beauty's hues,
Decked with light or gemmed with dews —
If, all meaner thoughts above,
Thou canst hope, and trust, and love —
If, from all dishonor free,
Thou canst Nature's lover be —
Spare her minstrels, — pity me! M.

Philadelphia, *May*, 1849.
— *Horticulturist.*

THE OLIO.

A man's first care should be to avoid the reproaches of his own heart; his next, to escape the censures of the world. If the last interferes with the former, it ought to be entirely neglected; but otherwise there cannot be a greater satisfaction to an honest mind, than to see those approbations which it gives itself, seconded by the applauses of the public. A man is more sure of his conduct, when the verdict which he passes upon his own behavior is thus warranted and confirmed by the opinion of all that know him. — *Addison.*

The difference between war and peace has been well defined by one of the ancients. "In the time of peace, the sons bury their fathers; in the time of war, the fathers bury their sons."

Of all vanities and fopperies, the vanity of high birth is the greatest. True nobility is derived from virtue, not from birth. Titles, indeed, may be purchased; but virtue is the only coin that makes the bargain valid.

"Poetry," says some one, "is the flour of literature; prose is the corn, potatoes, the meat; satire is the aquafortis; wit is the spice and pepper; love letters are the honey and sugar; and dunning letters are the emetics; letters containing remittances are apple dumplings."

TERMS. — The New England Farmer is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18½ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

The Postage

On this paper is only 1 cent, or 26 cents a year, within the state, or within 100 miles out of the state; and 1½ cents, or 39 cents a year, beyond those distances.

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